

THE ANNUAL REPORT

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For the year 1943 of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTHTo the DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Harleston, May 1944.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Thirtieth Annual Report on your Sanitary District.

In accordance with the instructions from the Ministry of Health this is an interim Report pending the issue of a final Report later.

The area of your District is 79,742 acres.

Population (1943), 18,170.

Number of inhabited houses, 1931 Census, 5,087. 1944, 5,350 approx.

Number of families and separate occupiers, 1931 Census, 4920.

Rateable Value, £47,786.

Sum represented by 1d. rate £200 (approximately).

Births: Legitimate, 145 Males, 122 Females. Total 267.

Illegitimate, 15 Males, 7 Females. Total 22.

Stillbirths -

Legitimate, 2 Males, 3 Females. Total 5.

Illegitimate, 1 Male, - Total 1.

Total Births, 289, Birth rate, 15.90 per 1,000.

Total Deaths, 240, Death rate, 13.19 per 1,000.

Stillbirths, rate per 1,000 total births, 22.54.

Percentage of Total Deaths occurring in Public Institutions, 42.50.

Deaths from Puerperal causes. Rate per 1,000
Number. total births.

Puerperal sepsis.....nil	nil
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" causes.....1	3.46
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Total, all causes... 1	3.46
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Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

Legitimate, 4 Males, 4 Females. Total 8.

Illegitimate, 1 Male. - Total 1.

Per 1,000 births: Legitimate, 27.68. Illegitimate, 3.46.

Total, 31.14.

Deaths from Measles (all ages). 0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages). 0.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years). 2.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

These remain as in the Report for 1938.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.	Samples submitted to Public Analyst ...	...	7
	Samples found to be dangerous to health	...	Nil
	Found to be of poor quality only..	...	2
	Submitted to bacteriological examination and found to be fit for drinking ...	...	2

MILK PRODUCTION.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders.

"Accredited" Licences granted....	...	...	67
" " suspended..	...	...	2

Transferred to "T.T." Licence ...	... 3
Samples taken for Methylene blue test..	164
" " " Biological Examination for T.B.	158
Samples for T.B. giving positive results	2

Milk & Dairies Orders.

New applications have been received for Registration and premises have been visited. Advice as to necessary adaptation or reconstruction has been given and the carrying out of these works supervised.

Samples for Methylene Blue test taken from non-designated producers...	10
Samples taken from ditto. for biological examination for T.B. ...	38
Samples for T.B. giving positive results	1

INSPECTION OF FOODSTUFFS.

Meat.

No. of carcases inspected at Government Slaughterhouse at Harleston ....	... 1602
Weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption...	132 cwts.

Other Foods.

Approx. 6 cwts. of tinned and other foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

HOUSING.

Complaints under the Public Health and Housing Acts have been investigated and remedied by informal action as far as present conditions of labour and materials have allowed.

The routine repair and maintenance of the Council's cottages has continued.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There have been no serious outbreaks of notifiable infectious diseases. Investigations were carried out in respect of 45 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 cases of Diphtheria, 6 cases of Pulmonary T.B., 1 case of Typhoid and 1 case of Cerebro-spinal fever.

Disinfections were carried out at 37 premises.

22 cases were removed to Isolation Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is issued by the County Laboratory 29, Thorpe Road, Norwich. Supplies are charged to the Medical Practitioners, but the cost is repaid by the District Council if the patient is unable to pay.

<u>Immunisation.</u>	Under 5.	Between 5 & 15.
Estimated number of children in Authority's area at 31 Dec. 1943.	1500	3250
Percentage of child population immunised at 31 December 1943.	54.3	60.4

/SCABIES

SCABIES.

No. of cases notified from various sources.	58
" " " receiving institutional treatment.....	6

Printed instructions as to the proper course to adopt are distributed to every house where a case is known to have occurred.

Steam disinfection of bedding etc., where this is necessary, is carried out at Dereham Isolation Hospital by arrangement with the County Medical Officer.

Once again I take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Bowden for his invaluable assistance to me during the year, and also Mr. Burrows for his co-operation.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your continued confidence.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

FREDERICK N. H. MAIDMENT.
M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.E.

Medical Officer of Health.

